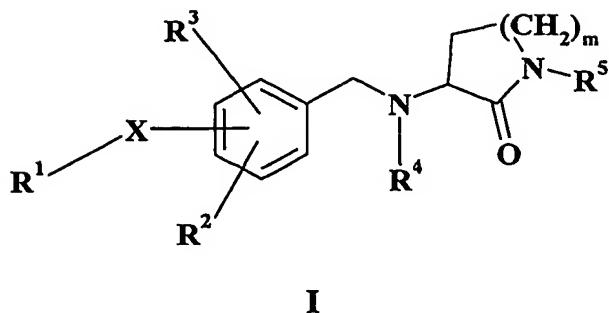


CLAIMS

1. The use of a compound of general formula I



wherein

m is an integer from 1 to 3

X is methylene, oxygen, sulphur or a NR⁶ group;

10 **R¹** is a straight or branched C₁-C₈ alkyl or C₃-C₈ alkenylene or C₃-C₈ alkynylene chain, optionally substituted with CF₃, phenyl, phenoxy or naphthyl or phenyl, the aromatic rings optionally substituted by one or more C₁-C₄ alkyl, halogens, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy or C₁-C₄ alkoxy groups;

15 **R², R³** are independently hydrogen, a C₁-C₃ alkyl chain, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy or C₁-C₄ alkoxy groups;

R⁴, R⁵, R⁶ are independently hydrogen or C₁-C₆ alkyl;

20 and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of pain, migraine, cognitive disorders, inflammation, gastrointestinal tract disorders, disorders of the genitor-urinary tract, ophthalmic diseases, obesity.

2. A compound of general formula I as specified in claim 1, provided that:
 - when R¹ is phenyl, benzyl, 2-phenethyl or 3-phenpropyl optionally
 25 and independently substituted on the phenyl ring by one or two C₁-C₆ alkyl,

halogen, hydroxy, C₁-C₄ alkoxy or trifluoromethyl and X is oxygen, sulphur, methylene or -NH-, at least one of R² or R³ is other than hydrogen;

- if m is 3, R¹-X 4-benzyloxy, R², R⁴ and R⁵ hydrogen then R³ is other than 3-methoxy, and

5 - if m is 3, R¹-X 3-benzyloxy, R², R⁴ and R⁵ hydrogen then R³ is other than 4-methoxy.

3. The use of a compound according to claim 1 having the general formula I as specified in claim 1, wherein m is 1 or 2, X is oxygen or methylene or NH or NCH₃, R¹ is C₁-C₈ alkyl chain, optionally substituted with CF₃, phenyl or 10 phenoxy group, where the aromatic ring in R¹ is optionally substituted by one or two halogen or methoxy or trifluoromethyl groups, R² and R³ are hydrogen, methyl, methoxy, fluorine, chlorine or bromine, R⁴ and R⁵ are hydrogen or methyl, halogen is chlorine or fluorine.

4. The use according to claim 1 wherein the compound is selected from 15 the group consisting of:

- 3-(4-Butyloxy-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
- 3-[4-(4-trifluorobutyloxy)-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
- 3-(4-Pentyloxy-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
- 3-[4-(5-trifluoropentyloxy)-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
- 20 3-(4-Phenylethyl-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
- 3-(4-Benzylloxy-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
- 3-(4-Phenylbutoxy-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
- 3-(4-Phenylpentoxy-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
- 3-(4-Phenylallyloxy)-benzylamino-pyrrolidin-2-one;
- 25 3-(4-Phenoxyethoxy-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
- 3-[4-(Naphthalen-1-ylmethoxy)-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
- 3-(4-Pentyloxy-3-fluoro-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
- 3-(4-Pentyloxy-3-chloro-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;

3-(4-Pentyloxy-3-bromo-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Pentyloxy-3-methoxy-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Pentyloxy-3-methyl-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Benzyl-3-fluoro-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
5 3-(4-Benzyl-3-bromo-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Benzyl-3-methoxy-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Benzyl-3-methyl-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Phenylpentoxy-2-chloro-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Phenylpentoxy-3-bromo-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
10 3-(4-Phenylpentoxy-3-methoxy-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Phenylpentoxy-3-methyl-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Phenylallyloxy-2-chloro-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Phenylallyloxy-3-fluoro-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Phenylallyloxy-3-bromo-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
15 3-(4-Phenylallyloxy-3-methoxy-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Phenylallyloxy-3-methyl-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Phenoxyethoxy-2-chloro-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Phenoxyethoxy-3-fluoro-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Phenoxyethoxy-3-bromo-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
20 3-(4-Phenoxyethoxy-3-methoxy-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Phenoxyethoxy-3-methyl-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(Naphthalen-1-ylmethoxy)-3-bromo-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-
one;
3-[4-(Naphthalen-1-ylmethoxy)-3-methoxy-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-
one;
25 3-(4-Pentyloxy-3-bromo-5-methoxy-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;

3-(4-Pentyloxy-3,5-dimethoxy-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Pentyloxy-3,5-dimethyl-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Benzylloxy-3-bromo-5-methoxy-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Benzylloxy-3,5-dimethoxy-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
5 3-(4-Benzylloxy-3,5-dimethyl-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Phenylallyloxy-3-bromo-5-methoxy-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Phenylallyloxy-3,5-dimethoxy-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Phenylallyloxy-3,5-dimethyl-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
10 3-(4-Phenylpentoxy-3-bromo-5-methoxy-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Phenylpentoxy-3,5-dimethoxy-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Phenylpentoxy-3,5-dimethyl-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Phenoxyethoxy-3-bromo-5-methoxy-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-
15 one;
3-(4-Phenoxyethoxy-3,5-dimethoxy-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-(4-Phenoxyethoxy-3,5-dimethyl-benzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(Naphthalen-1-ylmethoxy)-2-chloro-5-methoxy-benzylamino]-
pyrrolidin-2-one;
20 3-[4-(Naphthalen-1-ylmethoxy)-3-fluoro-5-methoxy-benzylamino]-
pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(Naphthalen-1-ylmethoxy)-3-bromo-5-methoxy-benzylamino]-
pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(Naphthalen-1-ylmethoxy)-3,5-dimethoxy-benzylamino]-
25 pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(Naphthalen-1-ylmethoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-
2-one;
3-[4-(2-Fluorobenzylloxy)-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

3-[4-(2-Fluorobenzyl)-benzylamino]-N-methylpyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(2-triFluoromethyl-benzyl)-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(2-Chlorobenzyl)-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(2-Methoxybenzyl)-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
5 3-[4-(3-Fluorobenzyl)-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(3-Fluorobenzyl)-benzylamino]-N-methylpyrrolidin-2-one;
3-{N-[4-(3-Fluorobenzyl)-benzyl]-N-methyl}-amino-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(3-triFluoromethyl-benzyl)-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
10 3-[4-(3-Chlorobenzyl)-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(3-Methoxybenzyl)-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(3-Methoxybenzyl)-benzylamino]-N-methylpyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(4-Fluorobenzyl)-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(4-Chlorobenzyl)-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
15 3-[4-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(4-triFluoromethyl-benzyl)-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(2,3-diChlorobenzyl)-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(3,4-diChlorobenzyl)-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(3,4-diMethoxybenzyl)-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
20 3-[4-(3,5-diMethoxybenzyl)-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(3,5-diMethoxybenzyl)-benzylamino]-N-methylpyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(3,5-diMethoxyphenyl)-pentoxy]-benzylamino-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(2-Fluorobenzyl)-3-methyl-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
25 3-[4-(2-triFluoromethyl-benzyl)-3-methyl-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(3-Fluorobenzyl)-3-methyl-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-{[4-(3-Fluorobenzyl)-3-methyl-benzyl]-N-methylamino}-

pyrrolidin-2-one;

3-[4-(3-triFluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-3-methyl-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

3-[4-(3-Chlorobenzyloxy)-3-methyl-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

5 3-{[4-(3-Chlorobenzyloxy)-3-methyl-benzyl]-N-methylamino}-pyrrolidin-2-one;

3-[4-(3-Bromobenzyloxy)-3-methyl-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

3-{[4-(3-Bromobenzyloxy)-3-methyl-benzyl]-N-methylamino}-pyrrolidin-2-one;

10 3-[4-(4-triFluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-2-chloro-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

3-[4-(4-Fluorobenzyloxy)-3-methyl-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

3-[4-(4-triFluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-3-fluoro-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

15 3-[4-(4-triFluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-3-bromo-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

3-[4-(4-triFluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-3-methoxy-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

3-[4-(4-triFluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-3-methyl-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

20

3-[4-(4-Chlorobenzyloxy)-3-methyl-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

3-[4-(4-triFluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-3-bromo-5-methoxy-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

3-[4-(4-triFluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-3,5-dimethoxy-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

25

3-[4-(4-triFluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-3,5-dimethyl-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

3-[4-(3,4-diChlorobenzyloxy)-2-chloro-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

3-[4-(3,4-diChlorobenzylloxy)-3-fluoro-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(3,4-diChlorobenzylloxy)-3-bromo-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(3,4-diChlorobenzylloxy)-3-methoxy-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

5 3-[4-(3,4-diChlorobenzylloxy)-3-methyl-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(3,5-diMethoxybenzylloxy)-2-chloro-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(3,5-diMethoxybenzylloxy)-3-fluoro-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

10 3-[4-(3,5-diMethoxybenzylloxy)-3-bromo-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(3,5-diMethoxybenzylloxy)-3-methoxy-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(3,5-diMethoxybenzylloxy)-3-methyl-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

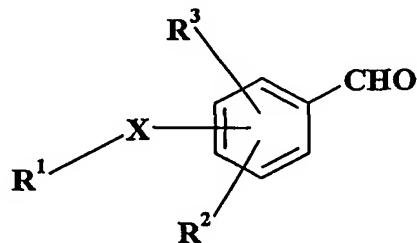
15 3-[4-(3,4-diChlorobenzylloxy)-3,5-dimethoxy-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(3,4-diChlorobenzylloxy)-3,5-dimethyl-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

20 3-[4-(3,5-diChlorobenzylloxy)-3-bromo-5-methoxy-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(3,5-diMethoxybenzylloxy)-3-bromo-5-methoxy-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
3-[4-(3,5-diMethoxybenzylloxy)-3,5-dimethoxy-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

25 3-[4-(3,5-diMethoxyphenyl)-allyloxy)-3,5-dimethoxy-benzylamino]-pyrrolidin-2-one.
3-(4-Benzylloxy-benzylamino)-piperidin-2-one;

3-(4-Benzylamino)-azepan-2-one;
 3-[4-(2-Fluorobenzyl)oxy]-benzylamino]-piperidin-2-one;
 3-[4-(2-Fluorobenzyl)oxy]-benzylamino]-azepan-2-one;
 3-[4-(2-Chlorobenzyl)oxy]-benzylamino]-piperidin-2-one;
 5 3-[4-(2-Chlorobenzyl)oxy]-benzylamino]-azepan-2-one;
 3-[4-(3-Fluorobenzyl)oxy]-benzylamino]-piperidin-2-one;
 3-[4-(3-Fluorobenzyl)oxy]-benzylamino]-azepan-2-one;
 3-[4-(4-Fluorobenzyl)oxy]-benzylamino]-piperidin-2-one;
 3-[4-(4-Fluorobenzyl)oxy]-benzylamino]-azepan-2-one;
 10 3-[4-(2-Chlorobenzylamino)-benzylamino]-piperidin-2-one;
 3-[4-(2-Chlorobenzylamino)-benzylamino]-azepan-2-one;
 3-{4-[(2-Chlorobenzyl)methylamino]-benzylamino}-piperidin-2-one;
 3-{4-[(2-Chlorobenzyl)methylamino]-benzylamino}-azepan-2-one;
 3-(4-Phenoxybenzylamino)-pyrrolidin-2-one;
 15 or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

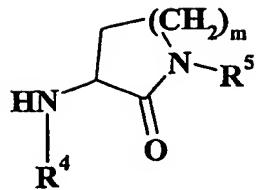
5. A process for the preparation of a compound of formula I, as defined in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, the process comprising:
 a) reaction of compounds of formula II

**II**

wherein R¹, R², R³ and X are as defined above

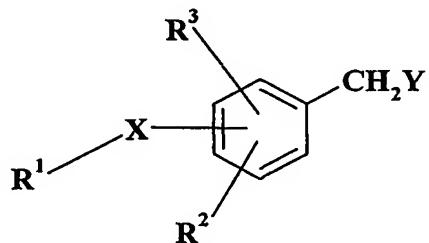
with compounds of formula III, in the presence of a reducing agent

41

**III**

wherein m and R⁵ are as defined previously thus obtaining a compound of formula I; or

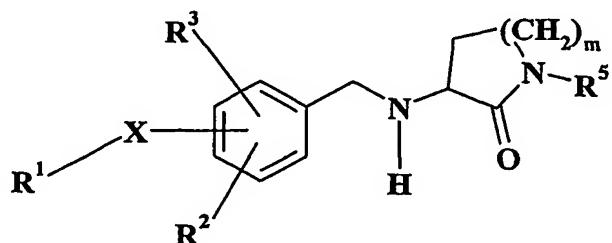
5 b) reaction of compounds of formula IV

**IV**

wherein R¹, R², R³ and X are as defined above and Y is a halogen atom
10 or a O-EWG group, where the EWG means an electron withdrawing group, like e.g. mesyl, tosyl or trifluoroacetyl groups, able to transform the oxygen which they are linked to, in a good leaving group with compounds of formula III thus obtaining a compound of formula I; or

c) reacting of a compound of formula V

15

**V**

wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁵, X and m are as defined above, with compounds of formula VI or VII

$R^4\text{-Y}$

VI

 $R^7\text{-CHO}$

VII

wherein Y is as defined above; R^4 is as above defined and R^7 is hydrogen or $C_1\text{-}C_5$ alkyl; and, if desired, converting a compound of the invention into another compound of the invention and/or, if desired, converting a compound of the invention into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt and/or, if desired, converting a salt into a free compound and/or, if desired, separating a mixture of isomers of compounds of the invention into a single isomer.

10 6. A pharmaceutical composition containing a compound of formula I, as defined in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in admixture with a suitable carrier and/or diluent and optionally to other therapeutic agents.